

# WIC Checker



The Official Newsletter for Washington WIC Retailers

May 2005

## Effective Immediately

### Infant Formula Suppliers

In compliance with Section 203 (e)(8) of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004:

- WIC will provide an approved infant formula supplier list to WIC retailers (enclosed).
- **WIC retailers must purchase infant formula only from suppliers on this list.**
- WIC retailers must have proof of purchases available from approved suppliers.
- WIC retailers who can not find their supplier on the list must call to inquire about their supplier at:

**1-(800) 841-1410**

- WIC will discuss questions and concerns with you.

## Peanut Butter

There is a new peanut butter product on the shelves called **Skippy Natural**. It is labeled as a peanut butter spread and is **not allowed on WIC**.

This product is similar to other peanut butter products that are **not allowed**:

- ⊗ Reduced fat peanut butter spread
- ⊗ Skippy Squeeze It
- ⊗ Skippy Squeeze Stix
- ⊗ P.B. Slices

## Send Your Prices Quarterly!

Keeping your WIC prices current with WIC helps ensure timely payment for WIC purchases. Please submit current prices on the WIC food you stock. This needs to be done every three months (quarterly).

An easy way to send food prices is to call the state WIC office and request a list of your current prices.

You can update the prices of your WIC items and send the list back to the state WIC office.



## New Retailer Requests on Hold

Temporarily, applications for new WIC retailers are not being accepted. The WIC office is adjusting to changes in federal requirements. Retailers requesting authorization will be put on a waiting list until the changes are in place.

## Highlights:

### Next Contract Cycle

Applications for WIC authorization will be accepted six months prior to the end of a contract.

- The current retailer contract expires March 31, 2006.
- Retailers will be sent application instructions around October 1, 2005.
- Next contract cycle is:  
April 1, 2006 - March 31, 2009.

## Selection of WIC Retailers

- The WIC office is responsible for determining the number of stores needed in a given service area.
- When there are many food retailers in a geographic area, consideration will be given to price and variety of WIC food available.

(“Highlights” continued on back)

### Highlights...

#### **WIC retailers must maintain all the following requirements:**

- Stock and maintain a reasonable variety of items from all food categories on the authorized WIC food list.
- Be needed to ensure reasonable client access, as determined by the State WIC Program.
- Maintain shelf prices for each WIC food under the maximum price.
- Stock and maintain at least the minimum quantity of the WIC contract formulas.
- Be a full line/full service grocery store in a fixed permanent location open for business eight or more hours per day, six days per week.
- Show at least 50% of food sales from food other than WIC.
- Not offer incentives to attract WIC clients, including but not limited to transportation, lottery tickets, strollers, and grocery delivery.
- Accept all common forms of payment (for example cash and checks).
- Have an activated Food Stamp authorization number, and a valid Washington state tax registration (UBI) number.
- Have been in the grocery business in the state of Washington at least one year before applying for WIC authorization.
- Not have bought or sold a store to avoid a WIC sanction.

### Highlights...

- Not have any owner, officer, partner, or manager who has been convicted of or had a civil judgment in the last six years for any of the following: fraud, antitrust violations, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, receiving stolen property, making false claims, or obstruction of justice.

**The WIC Program reserves the right to conduct background checks on any retailer, owner, officer, partner, or manager. In addition, the WIC Program may request a health inspection and report by the local health department any time in the contract period.**

### **Retailers with Current Contracts**

Retailers with a current contract applying for re-authorization, must also meet the following additional criteria:

- Have attended face-to-face training on WIC requirements at initial authorization and at least once in a 3 year contract period.
- Not have been disqualified from WIC or the Food Stamp Program, or have been assessed a monetary penalty in lieu of a Food Stamp disqualification in the last six years.

### Highlights...

Even if these criteria are met, a retailer with a history of any of the following may still be denied re-authorization unless client access to WIC foods cannot otherwise be assured.

- Accepting WIC checks without a signed contract with the WA Department of Health WIC Program.
- Changing ownership more than twice during a three-year contract period.
- Failing to make any corrections as required by WIC.
- Failing to complete payment within the time specified of an imposed monetary penalty, reimbursement of an overcharge, or reimbursement for the sale of unauthorized items in a WIC purchase.
- **Failure or difficulty meeting any requirements, or provide required documentation is just cause for denial of an application or termination.**

### **WIC Checker Newsletter**

Published by the Washington State WIC Program  
P.O. Box 47886  
Olympia, WA 98504  
Editor: Pat Jordan  
☎: (360) 236-3692  
1-800-841-1410 ext. 3692

### **WIC Website**

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/WIC/>